

FREEDOM BENCHREST

600 AND 1000 YARD

RULES OF COMPETITION 2026



Al Benarroch President

Sally Bauer Treasurer

Jim Bauer Records and Contract Chairman

David and Donna Matthews Awards Chairmans

Mike Wilson Rules Committee Chairman

David and Donna Matthews Web and Social Page Director

Ronnie Milford Advisory Board

Jason Chancy Advisory Board

MISSION STATEMENT

A BENCHREST ORGANIZATION FOR THE SHOOTER AND THE RANGE OWNERS WITH THE GOAL OF SIMPLICITY IN OPERATION, WHERE EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE.

AN ORGANIZATION THAT WILL PURSUE, RECORD AND PROMOTE PRECISION AND ACCURACY IN LONG RANGE BENCHREST.

WE ENCOURAGE THE EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCES AND THEORY, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, SUPPORT THE COMMARADARIE OF OUR MEMBERS AND THE MENTORING OF NEW SHOOTERS THAT ARE THE LIFE BLOOD OF ANY ORGANIZATION. OUR GOAL IS AN ORGANIZATION WHERE THE MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS ARE COMPETITORS AND FRIENDS, THAT SHARE THE COMMON GOAL OF COMPETITION AND ENJOYMENT OF THE SPORT.

OUR DESIGN OF THIS ORGANIZATION IS THE ABILITY TO EASILY MODIFY OUR SYSTEM TO BETTER SUIT THE NEEDS OF ALL OUR MEMBERS. WE WILL ALWAYS KEEP SAFETY AS OUR FIRST PRIORITY THROUGH ALL OF OUR OPERATION.

GENERAL SAFETY

- 1: If you have a misfire, WAIT!!!! Do not immediately open the bolt. You may have a hangfire that could detonate at a later time. Please raise your hand and notify the Range Officer for further direction.
- 2: Never put loaded ammunition in a gun at any time except, on the firing line, during your designate relay and only after the “Commence Fire” command has been given by the Range Officer.
- 3: Never put a bolt in a gun except, on the firing line, during your designated relay and only after the “Commence Fire” command has been given by the Range Officer.
- 4: Emergency Cease Fire may be called at any time by anyone. When an Emergency Cease Fire is called, all shooters on the line are to remain seated and may not touch their rifles, and are to wait for further instructions from the Range Officer.
- 5: Control of the Firing Line, in order for the Range Officer to maintain safe control of the firing line, once the Relay has begun, all competitors are to remain quietly seated, at their assigned bench, until the “Clear the benches” command has been given by the Range Officer. Any spectators will remain quiet until the “Clear the Benches” command has been given.

RULES COMMITTEE:

ALL RULES OF COMPETITION WILL BE DETERMINED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE RULES COMMITTEE. THE RULES COMMITTEE WILL BE MADE OF A REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED BY EACH OF OUR MEMBER RANGE OR MATCH DIRECTORS. ANY FREEDOM BENCHREST MEMBER MAY SUGGEST A RULE CHANGE TO A MEMBER RANGE OR MATCH DIRECTOR PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 1 OF ANY YEAR AND THE RULES COMMITTEE WILL VOTE WHETHER TO ACCEPT THE RULE CHANGE REQUEST OR NOT. IF THE SUGGESTION IS GIVEN A POSITIVE VOTE IT WILL BECOME A NEW RULE IN OUR RULE BOOK AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT YEAR. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DOES NOT HAVE A VOTE IN ANY RULE CHANGE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BREAKING A TIE AMONG THE RULES COMMITTEE. ANY MEMBER RANGE THAT HOSTS BOTH 600 AND 1000 YARD COMPETITION WILL BE ABLE TO APPOINT TWO REPRESENTITVES TO THE RULES COMMITTEE. Note # 1 (last page of the rules)

DEFINITIONS

Bench:

A bench shall be a rigidly constructed table, adequate in size to support a rifle, rests and accessories needed to shoot safely, of a height to permit a shooter to sit comfortably there at by raising or lowering their shooting stool. It should be constructed to accommodate left, or right handed shooters.

Blast Shield:

A partition, either permanent or temporary, between the benches, that minimizes muzzle blast interference with adjacent benches.

Club: A shooting organization, affiliated with Freedom Benchrest, that may host Matches as defined in our rules.

Firing Line:

A physical structure which contains shooting benches and facilities adequate to safely host organization Matches.

Guiding Means:

Any device, addition, contour or dimension on any rifle of any class, designed or adapted to contact with mating or reciprocal features of a rest to guide its return to firing position so that it's not necessary to re-aim the rifle optically for each shot.

Heavy Gun:

There are no restrictions for the rifle being used as to weight or sights. Caliber is restricted to .409 or less. All Heavy Guns to be fired in a single shot, hand fed manner only! Muzzle Brakes are allowed.

Junior Shooter:

A Junior Shooter shall be any person under the age of 18, who is a member of the same household as an Individual member.

Light Gun:

Guns shooting in the Light Gun Class must weigh 17 lbs. or less, inclusive of all equipment, scopes, brakes and accessories at the time of shooting match record targets. All Rifles must be fired in a single shot manner.

Tactical Gun:

No weight restrictions apply. Gun must have a fully functioning magazine for the cartridge the barrel is chambered for. Gun may be semi-automatic or a bolt gun. Semi-automatic guns must use a chamber flag when not at the bench for the associated relay. Caliber may not exceed .308 in diameter. Muzzle Brakes and Suppressors are allowed (Safety Officer or Match Directors, always have the option to prohibit rearward discharging muzzle brakes). All rifles may be fired in a single shot manner.

Bipods, Sandbags or Mechanical Front rests may be used. Rear bags typical to our light gun class are allowed.

Match:

An event where a winner is decided through a target aggregate system, per each discipline, 1000 or 600 yards and each class (Heavy, Light, Tactical). 600-yard competition will use a minimum of a 3 target aggregate for regular season matches and up to a 8 target aggregate for National Matches. Tactical shall use a minimum of a 2 target aggregate for regular season matches. 1000 yard competition will use a minimum of 2 target aggregate for regular season matches, and 3-4 target aggregates for National Matches. Shooters will compete against the same shooters for each of the targets to be included in the match.

Muzzle Brake:

A device attached to the muzzle of a rifle that redirects the propellant gases to counter or control recoil. Note: By the Nature of gas dissipation, there will be some rearward movement of gases, The intent here is to prohibit muzzle brakes designed to intentionally direct this gas rearward beyond the 90 degree plane.

Range:

A place to shoot Matches. The bullet stop must be adequate to stop bullets of any caliber legal for competition and shall be sufficiently high to intercept ricochets.

Ready Area:

An area where upcoming relays next to fire may stage equipment in order to be closer to the firing line. A Ready Area facilitates efficient changes between Relays. Shooters will receive instruction during the initial briefings and before competition begins about that particular range's Ready Area.

Relay:

A Relay is one set of Shooters firing in competition with each other at the same time, within one class, Light Gun, Heavy Gun and Tactical.

Rests, Front and Rear:

A Front Rest shall support the front/forearm part of the rifle. A Rear Rest shall support the rear/buttstock of the rifle while in position on the bench. The Front and Rear Rests may not be mechanically attached to the bench, rifle or to the other rest. A flexible mat or belt may be placed and used between the bench and rests, to facilitate coordinated movement and placement of both rests. Either rest, in our Heavy Gun, Light Gun and Tactical discipline, may be mechanical, adjustable in all directions in its construction. A Bipod is also considered a front rest. Sand Bags are required for the Front or Rear Rest System and must fully support the front, sides and rear of the rifle while in the Rest system. Size and thickness of the sand bags are not limited. Any sandbags contained within their rest system may be made from leather, rubber or synthetic fabric.

Sandbags:

A Sandbag is described as a bag, with or without a platform or pedestal. Sandbags may be filled with sand, heavy sand or any other granular material. The front and rear rest system must be such that when lifting the rifle from its rest, the rest does not lose contact with the bench at any point.

Rookie:

A new shooter to the sport of Benchrest shooting. Freedom Benchrest allows a new shooter the status of "Rookie" until the new shooter has been a member/competitor for a full calendar year.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Match Directors:

The Match Director is the Representative of a member Club that is responsible all communication and reporting required by the Club and Freedom Benchrest. The Match Director may delegate, appoint or assume the responsibility of any and all personnel required to execute a Match, as the Freedom Benchrest rules require. The Match Director may appoint a Range Officer, Range Official, Safety Officer, Referees, Scorer, and Statistician as his match may require.

Range Officer:

The Range Officer conducts Matches, controls the firing line and supervises the competitors/shooters. They will direct the Target Crew as required. They will oversee and enforce all of the Safety Rules. The Range Officer is in complete control of attendees and competitors on the range. Any unsportsmanlike behavior is grounds for removal and prohibition from the Range as the Range Officer sees proper. He ensures Wind Flags are raised and rule compliant. In the event of any situation, not limited to, Tornadoes, Hurricanes, Storms etc. The Range Officer has full authority to stop or pause the Match and after consultation with the Referees, announce a decision to proceed or end the Match. The Range Officer's decision will be final.

Referees:

Officials, appointed by the Match Director, which have the authority to conduct spot inspections. The Referees may inspect the equipment of competitors at their discretion, then pass judgement whether such equipment complies with the requirements of the class in which the shooter is competing. If found to be non-compliant, the shooter will be given the opportunity to correct the non-compliant equipment, provided the shooter has not shot in any part of the Match.

They adjudicate scoring at the request of the Scorer. They handle protests from the competitors. They adjudicate potential safety violations. They investigate any complaints of unsportsmanlike behavior and report to the Match Director for a final decision.

Safety Officer:

Appointed assistants to the Range Officer overseeing safe operation on the Range and Firing Line. They have the authority to flag prohibited practices for potential shooter safety errors and or rule violations. Final decision as to their findings lies with the Match Director.

Scorer:

Receives targets directly from the Target Crew, scores them and provides results to the Statistician. The Scorer may score their targets provided the Statistician or Referee verifies the results.

Shooter/Competitor:

The individual Shooter/Competitor is responsible for their:

Safe and courteous behavior.

Proof of Membership at the beginning of any Freedom Benchrest Match.

Compliance of instructions and decisions of Range Officials.

Non-Interference with the Target Crew, Scorers, Statistician, Range Officials and other competitors in performance of their duties of and schedule.

Having a general working knowledge of the Rules.

Reporting to the firing line when their assigned relay is called by the Range Officer.

Statistician:

Sets up relays based on information taken from competitor's registration form.

Supervises the work of the scoring detail and assists scoring as required, Records Relay data and Match results.

Treasurer:

Takes care of all of financial obligations and reports required between Club and Freedom Benchrest.

OPERATION AND SCHEDULE OF A FREEDOM BENCHREST MATCH

Safety Briefing:

Prior to the beginning of the first Match of each day, there will be a mandatory "Safety Briefing". All competitors are required to attend the Safety Briefing. The Safety Briefing may be prerecorded and played to the competitors or recited as below.

This is the Freedom Benchrest Safety Briefing

Safety is our highest priority here today. So, with that being said please comply with the following.

Bolts will be removed from the rifles during the course of a match at all times, except between appropriate commands by the Range Officer. Bolts are not to be placed in Rifles in Ready Area or any place at the Club except between commands given by the Range Officer. If a Shooter has a problem with competing in their relay, they must contact the Range Officer who will direct them to a place where the bolt may be inserted into the rifle under the supervision of a Range Official.

All actions will remain open and bolts out of the rifle, with no loaded cartridge touching the loading ramp, in the chamber, until the Range Officer gives the command "Commence Fire" at the start of the Sighter period. After the Sighter period bolts may remain in the rifle but no loaded cartridge may touch the loading ramp or be chambered until the Range Officer gives the command "Commence Fire"

If a Cease Fire is called during the Sighter period the remaining time will be dealt with per the rules. In order for the Range Officer to maintain safe control of the firing line, all competitors are to remain quietly seated at their assigned bench until the "Clear the Benches" command is given by the Range Officer

Referees may spot check, at their discretion, a rifle's weight, dimensions or the rest system. Any rifle outside of the rules, or an illegal rest constitutes grounds for disqualification.

If during the Relay a situation arises, which causes a cessation of fire, the Range Officer shall command "Cease Fire". All competitors are to remain in their seats, leave their rifles untouched and wait for follow up instructions from the Range Officer.

Any rounds fired after a “Cease Fire” command has been given may result in disqualification.

Once the Range Officer has determined whether or not it is a safety interruption, such as a person downrange or a procedural interruption, such as loose target, the Range Officer will give further instructions. A procedural cease fire may only be called in the Sighter period.

If it is a safety incident, that is an Emergency Cease Fire, all rifles are to remain untouched until the Range Officer commands gives further instruction.

If it is a Procedural incident, the Range Officer can then command “Clear your rifle by firing” or by “Open Bolts”.

All Bolts must be out of the rifles and the “Clear the Benches” command must be given prior to the Target Crew going downrange.

There will be no movement downrange without the command of the Range Officer

Any time lost by interruption of shooting not governed by the Rule Book shall not be charged against your allotted time.

Shooters, if you have a malfunction, raise your hand and a Range Official will assist you. If you have a misfire, DO NOT, DO NOT open your bolt. Wait 30 seconds before opening the bolt and first ensure that all observers behind the rifle are clear.

The Referees for today are (insert names here)

Shooters, it is advised that before you insert a loaded round, you look in your chamber to see a clear bore.

First Relay to the Line.

End of Safety Briefing

Range Commands for the 600 and 1000 Yard Disciplines

Immediately prior to the beginning of the Relay the Range Officer will announce to the competitors the following commands.

This is LG, HG or Tactical, Relay number??, Match number??

You will be allowed 10 minutes to complete your Sighter/Record period. This is a combined period where the competitor will shoot their Record rounds and Sighter round interchangeably. Make sure you shoot the required number of Record Rounds on your Record Target. At the discretion of the Range Officer or Match Director, a one minute sighter period, prior to the Record/Sighter period, may be granted to inexperienced shooters or in the event of overly inconsistent weather conditions. During this one minute Sighter period Spotters may be used to help locate bullet impacts. At no other time are Spotters allowed on the firing line without the permission of the Match Director or Range Officer.

During the Sighter/Record periods you will be given time warnings for 3 minutes, 2 minutes, 1 minute, 30 seconds and 15 seconds.

The Range Officer will then give the following commands

This is the start of your Sighter/Record Period

“Ready on the Right, Ready on the Left, Insert Bolts, Commence Fire”.

At the end of Sighter/Record period, When the time has expired or when the last shooter has completed their string of fire, whichever is first, the Range Officer will give the following command.

Cease Fire, Cease Fire, this ends your Sighter/Record period. Remain in your seats. Remove and show me your bolts. This applies anytime that a Cease Fire is called and the benches have to be cleared to allow target crews or others down range.

At this point the Range Officer will visually inspect the firing line and make sure all bolts are out of the rifles. If the line is safe the Range Officer may declare **“Clear the Benches, weigh any light guns, Next Relay to the line”.**

The Range Officer will verify that down range is clear, the range is safe and direct the Target Crew to remove the Record Targets and Replace with the following Relay’s Record Targets.

This process continues until the last relay of the day has completed their target.

600 YARD COURSE OF FIRE

Ranges may purchase 600 yard targets from the office of Freedom Benchrest. These targets will be the official Target and recognized for competition and records.

For all of the Light Gun, Heavy Gun and Tactical classes, all shooters will fire unlimited sighter shots and 5 shots only for their record targets.

The regular season aggregate match with four targets combined for group average and total score. Groups will be added together and divided by four for average group size. Score will be computed by adding the scoring rings containing bullet holes. For example: a perfect score for a one target would be 50 points and a perfect match score would be 200 points, assuming a 4 target match. The National 600 Yard Match will be an 8 Target Aggregate.

All shooters will have 10 minutes for the Sighter/Record period. During this 10 minute sighter/record period, the shooter may go back to the sighter targets at their discretion, but shoot only 5 shots at their Record target.

If a cease fire is called during the sighter/record period, the Range Officer will stop the clock immediately to fix the problem. If the time left is greater than two minutes the time clock will start at the point it was stopped. If the Clock was stopped with less than 2 minutes it will be reset to two minutes and the sighter/record period continued after the problem was corrected.

In the event a shooter cannot fully utilize the last minute of the sighter/record period due to no fault of theirs (usually a target problem) they need to notify the Range Officer by holding their arm up and asking for attention. The Range Officer will direct the balance of the shooters to continue the sighter/record period and fire their rounds per normal procedures. The shooter that could not finish their sighter/record period will remain seated until all other shooters have completed their sighter/record period. At that point the Range Officer will direct the Target Crew to correct the target problem. The shooter will then be allowed a two-minute sighter/record period per normal procedures to finish. All other shooters on that relay will remain courteous and seated until the shooter experiencing the problem has completed firing and the Range Officer indicates it is safe to clear the benches.

The command "Commence Fire", from the Range Officer is the beginning of the Sighter/Record period and once the Sighter/Record period is complete, the command "Cease Fire, Cease Fire" is used to end the Sighter/Record period.

1000 YARD COURSE OF FIRE

1000 Yard Targets may be purchased from the office of Freedom Benchrest and will be recognized for competition and record purposes.

A Regular season Match will consist of a minimum of a two target aggregate. The National Match may be a three or four target aggregate as decided by the Host Club.

Shooters will compete against the same shooters for each of the targets to be included in the Match aggregate.

All shooters will have a 10- minute Sighter/record period for their targets.

If a Cease Fire is called during the Sighter/Record period, the Range Officer will stop the Clock immediately to fix the problem (usually a target issue). If the time left is greater than 2 minutes, than the clock will resume from that time. If the time left is less than 2 minutes, than the clock will be reset to 2 minutes and the sighter/record period resumed.

For all of the Light Gun and Tactical Classes, all shooters will fire 5 record shots and unlimited shots on their sighter targets.

For all of the Heavy Gun Classes, the Club has the option of shooting either 5 or 10 shots for Record Targets. Both 5 and 10 shot targets will be recorded for Freedom Benchrest Records. Depending on the Club's decision to shoot 5 or 10 shots, only 5 or 10 shots may be fired at the Record target and unlimited shots at their sighter target, during the 10-minute sighter/record period.

In the event a shooter cannot fully utilize the last two minutes of the sighter/record period due to no fault of their own (usually a target problem), they need to notify the Range Officer by holding their arm up and asking for attention. The Range Officer will direct the balance of the shooters to continue the sighter/record period and fire their rounds per normal procedures. The shooter that could not finish the sighter period or record target will remain seated until all other shooters have completed their record targets. At that point the Range Officer will direct the Target Crew to correct the Target problem. The Shooter will then be allowed a two minute sighter/record period per normal procedures. All other shooters on that relay will remain courteous and seated until the shooter with the problem, has completed firing and the Range Officer indicates it is safe to clear the benches.

The command "Commence Fire", from the Range Officer is the beginning of the Sighter/Record period and once the Sighter/Record period is complete, the command "Cease Fire, Cease Fire" is used to end the Record Period.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Alteration of Facilities:

No destruction or alteration of Club supplied equipment or facilities is allowed by any person.

The "Pounding of Rest Feet" is not allowed unless the Match Director of the Host Club grants permission. The use of "Super Feet" may be required at the Match Director discretion.

Authorized Freedom Benchrest Matches may be held at night, under artificial lights at the Match Directors discretion.

Approval of Match Dates:

Any Member Club of Freedom Benchrest may apply for Match dates, by sending your request to the Freedom Benchrest Office. These requests should be made on the Freedom Benchrest Match Request Form, include the Name and address of the Range, the requested dates and the yardage and classes they wish to include. Upon match dates approval, Freedom Benchrest asks that our Member Clubs completely fill out the Match Report Forms and send to the Freedom Benchrest office as soon as possible. (Forms will be mailed to the Clubs as soon as Club membership is approved).

Coaching:

The Range Officer/Match Director shall be notified prior to the beginning of the match and may allow coaching/spotters throughout the match for safety and sportsmanlike concerns.

Competitor Eligibility:

Any Shooter may participate in a Freedom Benchrest Match by paying the daily match fees as determined annually by the Freedom Benchrest organization. Only Freedom Benchrest members will have their statistics and data included in the record keeping for Records and end of year Honors.

Competitor Registration:

Each Competitor is required to fill out the Freedom Benchrest registration form prior the beginning of each Match. Clubs have the option to determine how far ahead of the Match registration will be required.

Electronic Scoring:

Electronic Scoring and Marking systems are allowable during the Sighter/Record period. Freedom Benchrest will keep records for both the Electronic targets and the Paper targets. These will be separate categories and the Match Directors will send in the match reports, electronic data and the targets accordingly. Match Directors may determine the use of Electronic Scoring and Paper targets according to their needs and wishes. All other rules must be complied with.

Heavy Gun:

There are no restrictions for the rifle being used as to weight. Caliber is restricted to .409 or less. Muzzle Brakes are allowed.

Light Gun:

Guns shooting in the Light Gun class must weigh no more than 17 lbs including the bolt, muzzle brakes, scopes, mounts, or any accessories attached during the record period of competition.

Inspection of Equipment:

A scale with a certified weight to verify the accuracy of the scale, for the purpose of accurately weighing Light Guns prior to a Regular season Match and after every relay, as they come off of the Firing Line at the National Match. The scale should be near the firing line at all Freedom Benchrest Matches. The Club must allow one ounce in Scale error to be added to the 17lb weight restriction on Light Guns. Referees may spot check, at their discretion, rifle weight, Front and Rear Rests, dimensions for compliance to Freedom Benchrest rules. Any competitor may request his equipment to be inspected prior to the beginning of a Match to check for compliance with the Rules. Competitors must comply with Referees request for inspection or be penalized with disqualification. Any overweight rifle, or one outside of the rules dimensionally, or an illegal rest will result in disqualification if the illegal equipment has been used to fire any part of a Freedom Benchrest Match.

If a shooter changes light gun during a match, this light gun must be weighed as well.

Muzzle Position on the Shooting Bench:

Muzzle location, relevant to the leading edge of the Club's benches, is to be determined acceptable by the Match Director and/or their delegate. Each Club may have different concerns and the Match Director is the final answer.

Posting of Match Results:

Relay and Match Results will be posted at a location supplied by the Host Club, as the Match progresses.

Relay and Bench Assignments:

It is imperative that all Relay and Bench assignments be done fairly and without preferential treatment to any Individual. Drawing for Benches must be done in a random fashion such as a computer scoring program shuffle. Rotation of benches required at National Events. After completion of the Bench assignments, the Statistician shall prepare and furnish the Range Officer a copy the Bench assignments, which shall show each competitor's bench number, Relay number, match number. The Match Director of their delegate is charged with the proper marking of targets and identification of every target. The marking shall correspond with the correct Match, Relay and Target numbers of the event and bench number.

Protests and Appeals:

In the event a Competitor, feels that a Target has been scored in error, or a Rule has been incorrectly applied, they must first, bring notice to a Referee or the Range Officer at a time when convenient to the Referee or Range Officer. The Referee will notify the Range Officer who will evaluate the complaint and advance the issue to the appropriate operation of the Match. Upon review of the complaint with the appropriate operation, the Match Director will make a decision about the complaint and inform all of those involved of their decision. The Match Director may try to contact other knowledgeable members for advice or clarification. The Match Directors decision will be final.

Rule Book Availability:

All Clubs shall have one or more of the Current Freedom Rule Books on hand at all times during a Match.

One Match One Shoot:

No Shooter may enter a Freedom Benchrest Match more than once.

Restriction for Official's Participation:

No one participating in the operation of a National Match may participate in the National Match with the exception of the Referees, Safety Officers, Match Directors and Range Officer. Scorers, Statisticians may not participate in the Freedom National Match.

Shared Equipment:

If convenient for the Match Director and the schedule of the Match, the Match Director may allow two different shooters to share common equipment and be placed in different relays.

Shooter Additional Duties:

A shooter may work as Range Officer, target crew, Scorer or statistician but may not handle or score targets from their relay in which they are a competitor. The exception is the official Target Scorer, they may score their own target but it must be verified by the Statistician or Referees.

Spectators:

All Spectators must remain in an area designated for them by the Range Officer.

Registered Match:

Any Match approved by Freedom Benchrest.

Targets:

At this time, we will use targets equal to the IBS approved targets for 1000 and 600 yard targets. Official targets are available through Teton Print and Package in Idaho Falls, ID.

Wind Flags:

Wind Flags of any size may be placed by competitors no higher than the line between the highest point of the bench top to the bottom of the target along the line of sight seen through the scope.

Except as provided for below. Personal wind flags will be restricted to within the competitive shooting lane of the competitor placing the flags. A shooting lane is defined as the centerlines between the benches to the centerline between the targets unique to each competitor.

Competitors may place personal wind flags off to the side of the range, that is, left of the furthest left bench and right of the furthest right bench used during a Match.

After the first shot of the aggregate, flags may only be moved by Referees or Competitors and then only under the permission and direction of the Range Officer. Any flag, causing obstruction for any shooter, range personnel will lay down the flag and pole in question. At any match, where multiple targets are contested on the same day, flags may be moved or adjusted by competitors, between aggregates, as permitted by the Range Officer.

SCORING TARGETS AND SCENARIOS

SHOOTERS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE SCORERS QUARTERS. FAILURE TO RESPECT THIS RULE MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

Correct number of bullet holes in the target:

This is the easiest scenario. The Scorer measures the group size and score of each target and records the results to a score sheet that only identifies the shooter by target and Bench number. Scorers should not know the name of the Shooters for each target. Upon completion of scoring the relay, The Scorer verifies that each target's score and group were correctly transferred to the score sheet. The scorer designates the group and score winner. The targets are released. Winning group and scores are posted.

Any target with less than the required number of holes in the target, shall be examined for the possibility of two bullets going through the same hole. The Referees have the following options:

First Possibility:

Disqualification of the target! When the evidence does not support the possibility of the required number of shots impacting the target, then "Disqualification" is justified. Example: Shooter says "I lost track of how many shots I fired", or a four shot group on the edge of a target.

Second Possibility: Award the Shooter the group and Score as measured assuming the required number of bullets have gone through the target because of evidence.

Third Possibility: When evidence does not support a conclusive opinion of whether the required amount of record bullets were fired, and without the Shooter, knowledge of the group measurement or score, on the target and question, ask the shooter if they would like to reshoot a replacement target at the next available relay as directed by the Match director, or take the penalty as directed by the discipline yardage rules.

Note: let the evidence guide your decisions. Evidence from any available electronic scoring equipment is allowed in the Referee's decision making process.

In Reference to more than the required number of shots in a target, the Referees have the following options:

First Possibility: Disqualification of the target! When a Shooter places too many bullets through their record target, Disqualification is justified. Example: Shooter says, "I shot the same target twice" or "I lost track of how many shots I fired".

Second Possibility: Award the Shooter their measured group and score because the evidence supports the elimination of errant shots because of caliber, colored bullets, electronic scoring equipment or corresponding lack of bullet holes in a competitor's target.

Third Possibility: When the evidence cannot support a conclusive opinion of who or where the errant or extra bullet holes came from, and without the Shooter's knowledge of the targets group or score, ask the Shooter if they would like to reshoot a replacement target at the next available relay as directed by the Match Director, or take the overall group size and lowest possible score of the required number of record shots.

1000 Yard discipline:

If there are not any bullet holes in the target, the shooter will get a penalty of 18" per required bullet not on the target. Example: for a 10 Shot target that has no bullet holes in the target would receive a score of zero, and a group of 180". A 5 shot target with no bullet holes will have a group of 90" and a score of zero.

Less than the required number of bullet holes in the target 1000 yards

If there is less than the required amount of bullet holes in the target, the shooter will get a

penalty of 18" per required bullet hole not in the target. Example: A 10 shot target with 8 bullet holes in it and an ACTUAL group size of 10.59" from the 8 bullet holes in place would be scored as 10.59" plus $18" \times 2 = 36"$. 36" PENALTY plus 10.59" ACTUAL Group size = 46.59" final group size and the score of the 8 bullet holes in the target combined. The Referees should be called in for their review of the target and their decision is final. They should utilize all tools available for an accurate determination.

No Bullet Holes in target at 600 yards:

If there are no Bullet holes in the target, the shooter will get a penalty of 8" per required bullet not on the target. Example: for a 5 shot target that has no bullet holes in the target would receive a score of zero and a group of 40".

Less than the required number of bullet holes in the target at 600 yards:

If there is less than the required amount of bullet holes in the target, the shooter will get a penalty of 8" per required bullet hole not in the target. Example: A 5 shot target with 3 bullet holes in it, and an ACTUAL group size of 7.55" from the 3 bullet holes in place would be scored as 7.55 plus $8" \times 2 = 16"$. 16" penalty plus 7.55" ACTUAL Group size = 23.55 final group size and the score of the bullets in the target combined.

TEN SHOT TARGETS: There must be ten distinguishable bullet holes in the target to qualify for group, score or record purposes. Any target that has less than ten bullet holes will be penalized or DQ'd. Any target that appears to have less than ten distinguishable bullet holes should be reviewed by the Scorer and Referees for "doubles" (two bullets through the same hole).

If a target has 11 or more bullet holes in the target, The Scorer and the Referees may then look for proof of "colored" bullets or a distinguishable caliber difference to resolve the issue. If the Referees cannot make a decision as to colored bullets or a different caliber the Scorer then notifies the shooter that they have a problem with too many bullet holes in their target. The Scorer may not let the Shooter see their target until the Shooter has been given the option of taking the group or score on the target with all of the bullet holes in it or to reshoot the target. Any shooter, that knowingly, or accidentally, shoots more than the required number of bullets at their "Record" target, will be disqualified from that class. This does not prevent a shooter, from experiencing crossfires and other issues, for which we have additional rules and remedies.

Five Shot Targets: There must be five distinguishable bullet holes in the target to qualify for group, score or Record

purposes. Any target having less than five bullet holes will be penalized. Any target that has less than five distinguishable bullet holes should be reviewed by the Scorer and Referees for doubles. If a target has six or more bullet holes in the target, the Scorer and Referees may then look for proof of colored bullets or distinguishable Caliber difference to resolve the issue.

BREAKING TIES:

In the case of a Tie for highest total Score, the shooter with the smallest group aggregate will determine the Score winner.

In the case of a Tie for the smallest group aggregate, the shooter with the highest total Score will determine the Group winner.

In either of the above scenarios, if a tie still exists, the shooter with the highest "X" count will be the winner.

If a Tie exists after the above 3 scenarios, the shooter with a bullet hole closest the center of the bullseye will be the winner.

AGGREGATES:

The procedure for determining aggregates is the same for all Freedom Benchrest registered matches. The only factor that may differ is the number of targets considered in the aggregate.

RECORDS AND THEIR HANDLING

There will be Records kept for both Electronic and Paper targets individually.

600-yard Recognized Records:

Heavy Gun:

Smallest 5 Shot Group

Highest 5 Shot Score

Highest 4 Target/Match Score Aggregate

Smallest 4 Target/Match Group Aggregate

Light Gun:

Smallest 5 Shot Group

Highest 5 Shot Score

Highest 4 Target/Match Score Aggregate

Smallest 4 Target/Match Group Aggregate

Grand Aggregate:

Smallest 2-Gun LG/HG Group Grand Aggregate

Highest 2-Gun LG/HG Score Grand Aggregate

1000 Yard Recognized Records

Heavy Gun:

Smallest 5 Shot Group

Highest 5 Shot Score

Smallest 5 Shot 12 Target Group Aggregate

Smallest 5 Shot 20 Target Group Aggregate

Highest 5 Shot 12 Target Score Aggregate

Highest 5 Shot 20 Target Score Aggregate
Smallest 10 Shot Single Target Group
Highest 10 Shot Single Target Score
Smallest 10 Shot 12 Target Group Aggregate
Smallest 10 Shot 20 Target Group Aggregate
Highest 10 Shot 12 Target Score Aggregate
Highest 10 Shot 20 Target Score Aggregate

Light Gun:

Smallest 5 Shot Single Target Group
Highest 5 Shot Single Target Score
Smallest 5 Shot 12 Target Group Aggregate
Smallest 5 Shot 20 Target Group Aggregate
Highest 5 Shot 12 Target Score Aggregate
Highest 5 Shot 20 Target Score Aggregate
Smallest 2-Gun LG/HG Group Aggregate Single Match
Highest 2-Gun LG/HG Score Aggregate Single Match

POTENTIAL RECORD TARGET HANDLING

At no time shall a competitor take possession or handle their potential record target or targets.

Targets shall be measured and signed by the Scorer, Head Referee and Range Officer.

The Match Director must take possession of the Potential Record Targets and in coordination with the Scorer send the target with the Record target submission form to the Records committee at the Freedom Benchrest Office. 1000 yard aggregate records submissions must be accompanied with all data from the Club and Matches at which the targets were shot.

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FREEDOM BENCHREST

600 YARD END OF YEAR HONORS PROGRAM

FREEDOM BENCHREST End of Year Honors (EYH) will be based solely on the points accumulated at 10 or less sanctioned 600 yard matches per year. Match dates to be determined by the Club and submitted to Freedom Benchrest. Any Freedom BR Club hosting 6 or less EYH matches may select two matches per year to be a "Double Points Match" in which they can award twice the normal amount of EYH points. Any Freedom BR Club hosting 8, EYH matches may select one match per year to be a "Double Points Match" in which they can award twice the normal amount of EYH points. There is a maximum of ten Regular Season, EYH, Freedom Benchrest matches per year at any individual location or address. There is a limit of 14 Regular Season matches that any Freedom Benchrest member may use for the EYH program. To determine the two gun Group aggregate, Light Gun and Heavy Gun groups will be added together and averaged for final placement. To determine the top two gun Score winner, Heavy and Light Gun scores will be added together.

Matches held after November 15 will not be counted in the current year 600 yard program, but will count in the next year's total. Points will be awarded for the two gun overall, Light Gun overall, group and Score winners. Points will be awarded for the Heavy Gun overall, score and Group winners. Only Freedom Benchrest shooters will be included in the attendance based EYH awards points scale.

EYH points for the National Championship will be per the following scale times a bonus multiple of 1.25.

Example: If a shooter wins second place in Light Gun Score and earned 6 points according to the scale, $6 \times 1.25 = 7.5$ EYH points earned for the National Championship. It is the responsibility of each Club to submit a schedule of EHY points awarded to each shooter, per match, to the office of Freedom Benchrest, "Keeper of the points" on or before 30 days after the conclusion of the match. The Keeper of the points will submit to the webmaster for reporting periodically.

End of Year Honors categories are Top Shooter, Top Female, Top Rookie and Top Junior.

Records: EHY points for breaking a single or match aggregate record will not be awarded. If a single target or match aggregate is broken by

two or more shooters on the same day, records certificates will go to both shooters. the record will go to the smallest group and highest score shot on that date. All Light, Heavy, Tactical and 2-Gun records, whether single target or aggregate records will receive a Record certificate from Freedom Benchrest. All potential record targets must be submitted to the Records committee at the Office of Freedom Benchrest by December 1 of each Calendar Year. Freedom Benchrest, Record Submission forms must accompany the submitted targets.

Tactical Gun EHY will use the same EYH System as the Light and Heavy Gun combined. Tactical will have their own awards and Winners.

# of Shooters	Points for 1 st	Points for 2 nd	Points for 3 rd	Points for 4 th	Points for 5 th
2-7	1	0	0	0	0
8-14	2	1	0	0	0
15-21	3	2	1	0	0
22-28	4	3	2	1	0
29-35	5	4	3	2	1 etc.
36-42	6	5	4	3	2 etc.
43-49	7	6	5	4	3 etc.
50-56	8	7	6	5	4 etc.
57-63	9	8	7	6	5 etc.
64 and above	10	9	8	7	6 etc.

2026

FREEDOM BENCHREST

1000 YARD END OF YEAR HONORS PROGRAM

A Freedom Benchrest registered Match must have at least 4 of more Freedom Benchrest members in attendance to be considered

Freedom Benchrest 1000 yard must be held prior to Nov. 15 of the current year. Any matches after that date will be used in the following year totals.

EHY honors will be based solely on the points accumulated at the first 10 registered Freedom Benchrest Matches of the year per Club, location or address only.

The points a shooter earns, at their best 18 matches of the year, plus the National Championship count towards EHY. Points awarded per match will be per scale shown below.

It is the responsibility of the Host Club to submit a schedule of points awarded to each shooter per match, to the Keeper of the Points at the Freedom Benchrest Office.

Points will be awarded for Two Gun Overall, Light Gun Overall, group and score. Heavy Gun overall, group and score. A shooter may win EHY points for both Group and Score wins within the same Match.

All Regular Season Matches will be a two-target aggregate for both Light and Heavy gun competitions. To determine the two-gun group winner, the Heavy and Light gun groups will be added together and averaged. To determine the two-gun Score winner, the Heavy and Light gun scores will be added together.

Shooter of the Year categories are: Top Shooter, Top Female, Top Rookie and Top Junior.

Points for the National Championship will be per the following scale times a bonus multiple of 1.25.

Example: If a shooter won second place in light gun score and earned 6 points according to the scale, $6 \times 1.25 = 7.5$ points earned for the National Championship.

Records: EHY points for breaking a single or match aggregate record will not be awarded. If a single target record or match aggregate is broken by two or more shooters on the same day. Record certificates will go to both shooters, the record will go to the smallest group or highest score shot on that date. All Light, Heavy and Tactical Records will receive Freedom Benchrest Certificates.

Tactical EHY will use the same EHY system as the Light and Heavy Gun combined. Tactical will have their own awards and winners.

Single target records, with their target, must be submitted to the Records committee at the office of Freedom Benchrest, with Records submission forms by December 1. Aggregate Records must use Record Submission forms with all supporting documentation by Dec 1.

# of Shooters	Points for 1 st	Points for 2 nd	Points for 3 rd	Points for 4 th	Points for 5th
2-7	1	0	0	0	0
8-14	2	1	0	0	0
15-21	3	2	1	0	0
22-28	4	3	2	1	0
29-35	5	4	3	2	1 etc.
36-42	6	5	4	3	2 etc.
43-49	7	6	5	4	3 etc.
50-56	8	7	6	5	4 etc.
57-63	9	8	7	6	5 etc.
64	10	9	8	7	6 etc.

Note #1

Due to the expense of the Electronic Targets, any Rule change in regards to Electronic Targets must be approved by the Rules committee with a 100% agreement and the permission of the Owners and Directors of Freedom Benchrest.